



Atty Dkt No: PP00336.001
CHIR-336/00US
PATENT

"Express Mail" Mailing Label No. EV 151700565 Date of Deposit April 8, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Hanna Hacham
(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee)

Hanna Hacham
(Signature of Person Mailing Paper or Fee)

4-803

COPY

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

ABRIGNANI et al.

Serial No.: 09/011,910

Art Unit: 1642

Filing Date: February 17, 1998

Examiner: B. Brumback

Title: METHOD FOR PREPARING HCV E2 BINDING PROTEIN (as amended)

RECEIVED
JUL 24 2003
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX RCE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies the Request for Continued Examination submitted herewith and addresses the rejections set forth in the Final Office Action dated July 17, 2002. A Notice of Appeal was filed January 17, 2003. Accordingly, a petition and fee for a one-month extension of time accompanies this filing. Reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.